

S/047/034  
YERIAN MINE

**From:** <Pete\_Sokolosky@ut.blm.gov>  
**To:** <nrogm.tgallego@state.ut.us>  
**Date:** 1/9/01 2:24PM  
**Subject:** Horseshoe Bend Situation

Tony -

I was in the Horseshoe Bend area south of Vernal last Friday to determine if there were any changes to the Yerian mine area. I could not detect any change to the area since my September 17, 1999 on-site. There are still disturbances on adjacent public lands which have yet to be reclaimed. I did not go too far onto Section 2 (private land where the Yerian mine is located), but I did not notice any changes to this inactive placer mine area since September 1999. The wire gate was still open and the access roads leading to the Yerian mine appear to continue to receive vehicular traffic; although I did not see anyone at the Yerian mine site.

A GeoExplorer 3 data logger was used to capture spatial data about disturbances on the public lands in Section 35 which were not authorized by the BLM. The two .jpg figures\* attached were exported from layouts I created in ArcView. When I compare the location of the two access roads to the Yerian mine [linear feature on both figures] to topographic mapping and aerial photographs (dated 7/14/78) it becomes evident that about 1,240' of road were constructed across public lands (see Figure 2; the westerly access was projected to intersect a pre-existing access road in the SENESWSW Sec. 35). The need for the reclamation of these access roads needs to be communicated with the Yerian mine operator. If operations resume at the Yerian mine, the operator may have to obtain a right-of-way to continue to use the constructed segments of access roads across.

The acreage of the areas disturbed on public lands amounts to about .84 acres. This includes all the area features shown, except for the "old topsoil stockpile" as well as the access roads cited above (the roads are about .35 acres in area). The topsoil stockpile may have been the result of pre-stripping in advance of sand and gravel being extracted for processing through a placer mill. The operator will have to obtain BLM permission to use stockpiled material on public lands in reclamation.

We appreciate being apprised of your efforts to have the Yerian mine operator reclaim the disturbances on public lands.

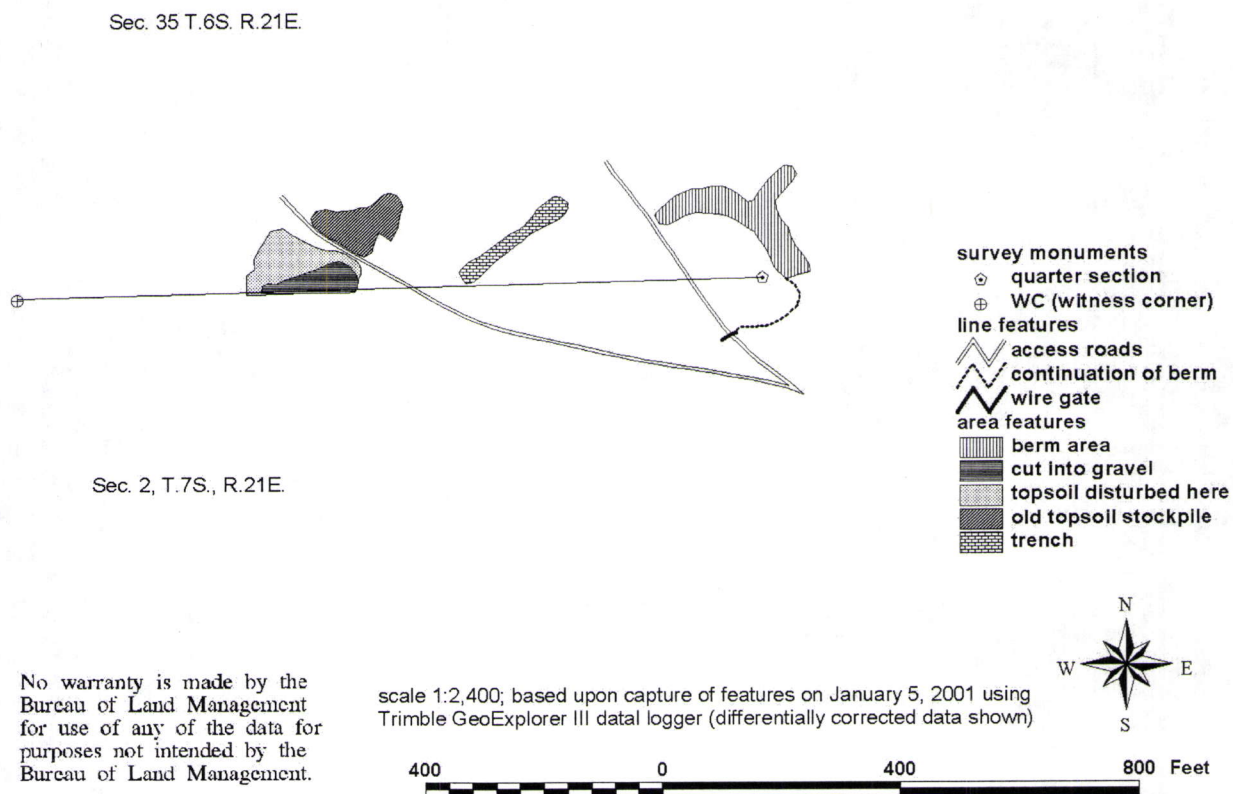
Please contact me at 435 781-4501 if you have any questions.

Pete Sokolosky  
Vernal Field Office-BLM

\* the 1:2,400 scale worked best to show the features I gps'ed; if you need something on a different scale, let me know.

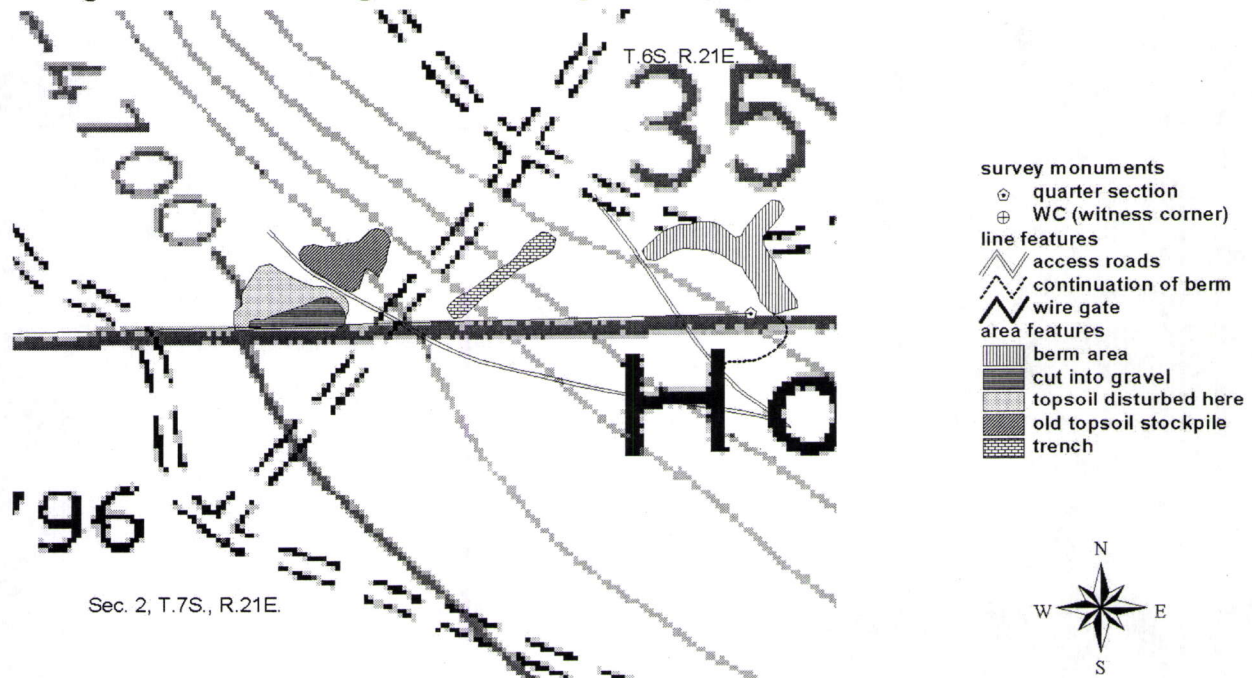
(See attached file: horseshoe\_bend\_fig1.jpg)(See attached file: horseshoe\_bend\_fig2.jpg)

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**Figure 1. Encroachment of placer operations in Section 2 onto public lands**

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Figure 2. Features in figure 1 with background topography



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management for use of any of the data for purposes not intended by the Bureau of Land Management.

scale 1:2,400; background topography is from the Brennan Basin 7.5" topographic map, contour interval is 10 ft

400 0 400 800 Feet



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**From:** <Pete\_Sokolosky@ut.blm.gov>  
**To:** <nrogm.tgallego@state.ut.us>  
**Date:** 1/10/01 3:42PM  
**Subject:** Scaling of figures I sent you

Tony -

Just a quick note about the ".jpg" attachments to my e-mail about the south end of the Horseshoe Bend area. These figures were created in a landscape format page format [8.5" x 11" letter size piece of paper]. Because the scaling of what you print may not be the same as the layout I developed in ArcView, please use the bar scale for distance and ignore the legend information which indicates the plot is 1:2400 in scale.

Please do let me know if you have any questions.

Pete Sokolosky  
Vernal Field Office-BLM